(ग) और (ड़) पर्यटन का व्यापक विकास हासिल करने के उद्देश्य से राज्य सरकार ने नई पर्यटन नीति और कर लाभों को शामिल करते हुए कई प्रोत्साहन घोषित किए हैं। राज्य सरकार ने क्षेत्र विकाया योजना भी तैयार की है तथा पर्यटन सेक्टर में निजी निवेश को आकर्षित करने के लिए कार्यवाई की गई हैं।

Lifting of Restrctions on Tonrisni in the N.E. region

2316. SHRI TARACHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lift the restrictions on tourism in North East region to boost tourism;

(b) if so, details thereof with names of States to be benefited with this move;

(c) whether Govermnent propose to launch some additioinal schemes to attract domestic tourists to sightseeing places of Assam; and

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINI3TER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRI-KANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) io (d) In order to boost tourism in the North Eastern Region, restrictions have completely been lifted from Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura since May, 1995. The proposals made by other States of the North East Region for relaxation of restrictions are under examination in consultation with the encerned agencies.

The steps taken to encourage tourism in the North Eastern Region include eihphasis on development of infrastructure, human resource development and wide publicity of tourist attractions of the region. Department of Tourism has also identified Guwahati. Kaziranga Shillong-Tawang as a travel circuit for intensive and integrated development.

For the development of tourism in in Assam, Department of Tourism in consultation with State Government has identified 11 projects estimated at Rs. 219 lakhs for Central Financial Assistance during 1997-98.

Seating up of five-star and Heritage Hotels by ITDC

2317. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether I.T.D.C. have decided to set up a few more new five-star and heritage hotels to expand existing ones;

(b) whether such move will affect hotel business of I.T.D.C; and

(c) if so, steps proposed to taken in be this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIA MENTARY AFFAIRS AND MI NISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRI-KANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The cons truction/reconstruction / expansion of 5-Star Hotels by ITDC would and new destinations in the Ashok Group or Hotels, enable ITDC to exploit high potential of prime/ strategic locations, provide competi tive edge and more number of hotel rooms which will enhance profitability of ITDC.

(c) ITDC's 9th Five Year Plan include plan scheme for construction/ reconstruction of the following 5-Star hotels:

1. Construction of a 100-room, 5-Star hotel at Chandigarh.

2. Reconstruction of the existing 205-room, 3-Star Lodi Hotel into a 310-room, 5-Star Deluxe Suite Hotel,

In addition, it also envisages expansion of Laxmi Vilas Palace Heritage Grand Hotel, Udaipur and Kova-1am Ashok Beach Resort.